

helped form Congregations Building Communities, the PICO affiliate in Modesto. In addition, he assisted in forming a street lighting district to add streetlights to an unincorporated area of Southwest Modesto in 2005.

More recently, he's been involved in calls for immigration reform. His church's congregation has been a mixing pot of Latino, Hmong, Cambodian and Laotian people sharing space and worshipping together. In June, he plans to officially retire as the Senior Pastor of his congregation, but plans to continue as an unpaid volunteer in that role.

Pastor Bridegroom has also served as interviewer for Stanislaus County Sheriff candidates and City of Modesto police captains. He has organized a baseball league in west Modesto and chaired block parties for the National Night Out.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising Pastor Wayne Bridegroom, for his significant contributions as a bridge between evangelicals and Catholics, U.S. citizens and immigrants, and his overall effort to provide a thriving foundation for our community.

HONORING JACKSON MOHR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jackson Mohr. Jackson is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 360, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jackson has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jackson has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jackson has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jackson built a loafing shed to protect the horses at the Northland Therapeutic Riding Center, a local equine center for youth and adults with special needs.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jackson Mohr for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY D. ROUCH

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Jeffrey D. Rouch, on the occasion of his passing from this life to the next.

Jeff was an avid political and government affairs professional, spending twenty-one years of his career with the Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. Jeff began his professional career in the Pennsylvania Senate in 1982 as the Director of Policy Development and Research, before becoming the Director of Government Affairs for the Insurance Fed-

eration of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia in 1985. He later became an integral member of the Nationwide team, and he retired as the Senior Vice President of Corporate Relations and Public Affairs. His more than twenty-five years as an advocate for the insurance industry enhanced the industry's ability to see to the needs of countless individuals affected by unforeseen misfortune.

He was instrumental in providing Nationwide Insurance and its members a voice in Washington, DC by establishing an office in the nation's capital in 1997. I and my colleagues are fortunate to work with dedicated private citizens such as Jeff, who advocate for public policies that address the needs of millions of our friends and neighbors.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I thank Jeffrey Rouch for his contributions and his unrelenting service to his industry. I offer my deepest sympathies to his family. Their sense of loss at this time is shared by many who knew and loved Jeffrey Rouch, and he will be dearly missed.

CELEBRATING RUDY HANLEY'S RETIREMENT

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Rudy Hanley. As a former State Senator and Congressman for the last 30 years, I have met many people along the way who are advocates for one cause or another, resources that I come to rely on for advice, supporters, and a few that become friends. But there are really very few, who become all of those things, and who are trusted confidants, respected advisors, and true friends. Rudy Hanley is all of those things to me.

I've known Rudy since my days as a California State Senator. I wasn't the Chair of any committees, I wasn't in leadership, but Rudy came to talk to me about something that he was passionate about—credit unions, and what they could do for their members, who were often low to middle income, and who sometimes needed a little extra help.

One of my favorite Rudy stories is that of his "Turkey Loan." One year, Rudy noticed that some of his members were having a hard time buying the groceries for their Thanksgiving dinner, because they didn't get paid until the following week. So, Rudy offered them a "Turkey Loan," where they could come into the credit union, sign a piece of paper, and walk out with a hundred dollars in cash to purchase their groceries. It wasn't a formal loan, but you know, Rudy told me that they never had anyone who didn't pay the loan back. And I think that was probably due in large part to the fact that they respected Rudy, and appreciated the fact that he respected them, and cared for them.

I also respect Rudy immensely. He is a man of great integrity, who works hard, studies hard, and who has been very successful in life. But despite that success, he has never forgotten who he works for—and that is his members. And he has continued to go above and beyond his job at the credit union, to ad-

vocate for them in Sacramento and in Washington, DC. He also has been my "go to guy" when it comes to policy questions that affect credit unions. Not only does he understand the issues better than anyone I know, he is honest and I know that he will always give it to me straight.

And so, I am really going to miss having Rudy at the helm of Schools First, and as an official advocate for credit unions in DC. But I also know that Rudy will always be fighting for credit unions, if even in an unofficial capacity.

And as a friend, I am happy for Rudy and for Catherine, who have earned this retirement. And I hope that it means that Marie and I will get to see more of them in the years to come.

God Bless you Rudy! And Congratulations!

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,263,040,455,036.20. We've added \$6,636,163,406,123.12 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING DAWSON MOHR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dawson Mohr. Dawson is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 360, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dawson has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Dawson has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Dawson has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Dawson erected a playground at the Northland Therapeutic Riding Center, a local equine center for youth and adults with special needs.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dawson Mohr for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on February 3, 2014, I missed two recorded